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Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)

Twentieth session
Geneva, 26 January 2018

Report of the Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways on its twentieth session*

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I. Attendance

1. The Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) held its twentieth session in Geneva on 26 January 2018. Representatives of the following Contracting Parties took part in the work of the session: Austria, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

2. The Administrative Committee noted that the representatives of Contracting Parties attending the session had been accredited and that the quorum of not less than half of the Contracting Parties required for the purpose of taking decisions had been reached.

3. In accordance with article 17, paragraph 2 of ADN, and following a decision by the Committee (ECE/ADN/2, para. 8), a representative of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) took part in the session as observer.

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documents: ECE/ADN/43 and Add.1

4. The Administrative Committee adopted the agenda prepared by the secretariat.

III. Election of officers for 2018 (agenda item 2)

5. On a proposal of the representative of the Netherlands, Mr. H. Rein (Germany) was elected Chairman and Mr. B. Birklhuber (Austria) was elected Vice-Chairman for the sessions in 2018.

IV. Status of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (agenda item 3)

6. The Administrative Committee noted that the number of Contracting Parties to ADN remained at 18: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

V. Matters relating to the implementation of ADN (agenda item 4)

A. Classification societies

7. The Administrative Committee noted that the Russian Maritime Register of Shipping had submitted information to the Safety Committee at its thirty-second session regarding certification of compliance with ISO/IEC 17020:2012 and references to ADN in the Russian Maritime Register of Shipping Class Rules (refer to informal documents INF.26 and INF.29). It also noted that, that in accordance with ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/60 paras. 24 and 25, the Russian River Register had also

submitted the list of references to ADN in its Class Rules (refer to informal document INF.13).

8. However, noting that due to the late availability of that information the Safety Committee had not had time to examine it in detail (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/66, paragraphs 30 and 31), the Administrative Committee invited the Safety Committee to consider these documents at its next session in August 2018 and forward its recommendations to the Administrative Committee for consideration at its twenty-first session.

9. Other Recommended ADN Classification Societies were requested to provide such evidence as discussed during past sessions of the Safety Committee (See ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/56, paras.33-36 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/58 paras 16-18). It was noted that the lists of recommended and recognised classification societies were available on the secretariat's website at the following address: www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/adnclassifications.html.

B. Special authorizations, derogations and equivalents

10. The Administrative Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Safety Committee (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/66, paragraph 10) authorizing the competent authority of Serbia to issue, in accordance with 1.5.3.2, a temporary derogation for the tank vessel "Marconi" that would allow her to use a dry aerosol generating fire extinguisher system (Fire Pro) (see annex).

11. It was recalled that the text of special authorizations, special agreements, derogations and equivalents, as well as their status, and of notifications, could be found on the secretariat's website at the following link: http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm.

C. Miscellaneous notifications

12. The Administrative Committee invited countries to check the contact information for their competent authority and if necessary to recognise classification societies from the recommended list in accordance with 1.15.2.4 of the annexed Regulations if they had not already done so.

13. It was recalled that, according to 1.16.4.3 of the Regulations annexed to ADN, the Administrative Committee is expected to maintain an up-to-date list of the inspection bodies appointed. Information received so far is available on the secretariat's website at http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm.

14. Examination statistics were provided by the government of the Netherlands. As noted by the ADN Safety Committee (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/66, paragraphs 25-27), examinations statistics were considered extremely useful. It was suggested that the statistics for all the Contracting Parties should be compiled by the secretariat in a single document. The Administrative Committee noted that the informal working group on the training of experts had been invited to propose a standard format for such consolidation and a procedure for collecting the information periodically.

15. It was also recalled that model expert certificates received by the secretariat were available on the UNECE website at the following link: http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/model_expert_certificates.html

16. Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, were reminded to send their model expert certificates and ADN examination statistics to the secretariat.

D. Other matters

17. No other matters were raised under this item.

VI. Work of the Safety Committee (agenda item 5)

18. The Administrative Committee took note of the work of the Safety Committee as reflected in the report on its thirty-second session held in Geneva from 22-26 January 2018 (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/66 and Add.1). It noted that the Safety Committee had reviewed and checked all amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN it had proposed at its 2016 and 2017 sessions for entry into force on 1 January 2019 (as consolidated by the secretariat in document ECE/ADN/2018/1), had modified some of them, and had proposed new amendments and corrections to ADN 2017. The Committee adopted all these amendments and corrections, as listed in annexes I and II respectively, of the report of the Safety Committee. The secretariat was requested to take the necessary steps to communicate the corrections to Contracting Parties in accordance with the usual procedure, so that the texts could be rectified as soon as possible.

19. The Administrative Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a consolidated list of all the proposed amendments which it had adopted for entry into force on 1 January 2019 so that they could be made the subject of an official proposal to amend the ADN in accordance with the procedure set out in article 20. The notification would have to be issued no later than 1 July 2018, with a reference to 1 January 2019 as the scheduled date of entry into force.

20. It was noted that at its thirty-third session, the Safety Committee would only consider for adoption and entry into force on 1 January 2019, amendments and corrections to already adopted texts that would be necessary to ensure harmonization between ADR, RID and ADN, following the decisions taken by the Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its spring session in March 2018 and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its 103rd session in May 2018.

21. The Administrative Committee invited the UNECE and CCNR secretariats to continue to cooperate to ensure consistency of all linguistic versions of ADN 2019. It also requested the UNECE secretariat to prepare the consolidated text of ADN as modified on 1 January 2019 as a United Nations publication and to make it available in advance of that date so that countries could organize themselves to implement the new provisions.

VII. Programme of work and calendar of meetings (agenda item 6)

22. The Administrative Committee noted that its next session was scheduled to take place at 12.00 on 31 August 2018 and that the deadline for submission of documents was 7 June 2018.

VIII. Any other business (agenda item 7)

23. Noting that the secretary to the Administrative and Safety committees had retired on 30 November 2017, the Committee expressed its appreciation for his expertise in the field of transport of dangerous goods and the work done over the past 25 years, and in particular for his leadership, involvement and dedication during the ADN development process and its harmonization with ADR and RID. The Administrative Committee wished him every success in his new undertakings.

24. The Administrative Committee also noted that following Mr. Kervella's retirement, a post in the professional category remained vacant in a period of the biennium where the workload for the Dangerous Goods and Special Cargoes Section was significant, as it would have to ensure the timely preparation of the consolidated versions of ADR and ADN to reflect the entry into force of the amendments thereto on 1 January 2019. It was also noted that another post (P2) of the section would also become vacant on 5 February. The Administrative Committee wished that all measures be taken in the secretariat to fill in these vacant posts without delay to avoid disruption of services.

IX. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)

25. The Administrative Committee adopted the report on its twentieth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat and sent to delegations for approval by e-mail after the session.

Annex

Decision of the ADN Administrative Committee relating to the use of a dry aerosol fire extinguishing system (Fire Pro) on the tank vessel "Marconi"

Derogation No. 1/2018 of 26 January 2018

The Competent authority of Serbia is authorized to issue an addition to the certificate of approval of the tank vessel "Marconi" for the use of a dry aerosol generating fire extinguisher system (Fire Pro).

Pursuant to paragraph 1.5.3.2 of the Regulations annexed to ADN, the above-mentioned vessel may deviate until 31 December 2018 from the requirement of paragraph 9.3.1.40.2.1, Extinguishing agent: The extinguishing agent is not listed in the paragraph. The vessel is equipped with a permanently fixed fire extinguisher agent of the dry aerosol generating fire extinguishing system (Fire Pro).

The Administrative Committee decides that the use of this dry aerosol generating fire extinguisher is sufficiently safe if the conditions set by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)* are met at all times.

The following condition shall also apply:

1. All data related to use of the dry aerosol generating fire extinguisher system (Fire Pro) shall be collected by the carrier. The data shall be sent to the competent authority on request.

2. After use of the permanently fixed fire extinguisher agent, an evaluation report shall be sent to UNECE secretariat for information of the Administrative Committee, including the operational data and the inspection report by the classification society which classed the vessel.

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* Refer to informal document INF.3 submitted at the 28th session of the ADN Safety Committee available at: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2016/dgwp15ac2/WP15-AC2-28-inf03e.pdf and INF.30 submitted at the 29th session of the ADN Safety Committee available at: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2016/dgwp15ac2/WP15-AC2-29-inf30e.pdf